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Deliver to: Examiner Dmitry Levitan, Art Unit 2662
 Firm Name: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
 Fax Number: 703-872-9306
 From: John P. Ward Operator: Anne Collette
 Date: March 29, 2005
 App. No.: 09/671,767
 No. of pages: 13 (including cover sheet)
 Client/Matter: 042390.P9021 Docket Date: 4/9/05; 5/9/05 Atty: EMM

Dear Examiner:

Please find the following document(s) attached:

- 1) Request for Continued Examination (1 page – 2 copies)
- 2) Response to Final Office Action (10 pages)

Thank you.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.	
By: <u>Anne Collette</u> Anne Collette	Date: <u>March 29, 2005</u>

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PTO/SB/30 (08-03)

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**Request
For
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/671,767
<i>Filing Date</i>	September 27, 2000
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Scott B. Blum
<i>Art Unit</i>	2662
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Dmitry Levitan
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	042390.P9021

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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
 - ii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
- i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- a. Other _____

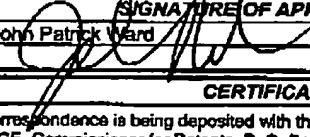
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666

- i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.138 and 1.17)
 - iii. Other any additional fees that may be required
- b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	John Patrick Ward	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40,216
Signature		Date	March 29, 2005

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Name (Print/Type)	Anne Collette	Date	March 29, 2005
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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- i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
 - ii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
- | | |
|---|--|
| i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply | iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) |
| ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s) | iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

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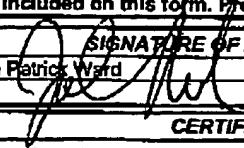
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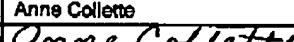
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